DEC 2.1 2004



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| То | Examiner Bruck Kifle |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Company | USPTO |
| FAX | (703) 872-9306 |
| From | Michael C. Badia |
| Date | December 21, 2004 |
| Subject | Application No. 10/645,043 |
| • | Attorney Docket No. VPI/00-109 DIV US |
| Total Pages | 3 |

Message or Comment

In response to the Office Action dated June 28, 2004, attached is a Petition for a 3 Month Extension of Time relating to the above-identified application.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any documents referred to as attached hereto, is/are being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Facsimile Number: (703) 872-9306 on this 21st day of December 2004.

Karen DiRoseo

If any problems occur with this fax transmittal, please call (617) 444-6467 immediately.

FAX Number (617) 444-6483 Legal Department

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Attorney Docket No. VPI/00-109 DIV US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

David Bebbington, et al.

CONFIRMATION NO.:

7317

SERIAL NUMBER:

10/645,043

EXAMINER:

Bruck Kifle

FILING DATE:

August 21, 2003

ART UNIT:

1624

FOR:

CARBAMATE CASPASE INHIBITORS AND USES THEREOF

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-4242

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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DEC 2 1 2004

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1), applicants hereby petition for a three month extension of time to respond to the Office Action dated June 28, 2004. With the extension, a response is due on or before December 28, 2004.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fee of \$1,020.00 that is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3) to Deposit Account No. 50-0725. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Badia

Registration No.: 51,424

Agent for Applicants

c/o Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

130 Waverly Street

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tel: (617) 444-6467 Fax: (617) 444-6483

Dated: December 21, 2004

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